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Da Costa, J. C.

The historic family furnish-  
ings of John Chalmers Da Costa,  
sold Dec. 15, 1930.

169

T01

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OF ART

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The JOHN CHALMERS DA COSTA, 3rd  
collection of  
DOCUMENTED  
EARLY PHILADELPHIA FURNITURE




The RESIDENCE OF CAPTAIN JOSEPH DA COSTA  
The original owner of this collection at  
Front Street and Produce Avenue, Philadelphia

Now on Exhibition

at

WM. D. MORLEY, Inc.  
THE PHILADELPHIA ART GALLERIES AND AUCTION ROOMS  
124-126 S. 17th Street, Philadelphia  
[1700 SANSON STREET BUILDING]





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Room in Original Residence of Captain Joseph Da Costa

# The Historic Family Furnishings

OF

John Chalmers Da Costa, 3rd

EMBRACING

## Pedigreed, Labeled, Documented Furniture

By Jacob Wayne and Edward James, Philadelphia, 1770-1792.

With the original bills.

On loan exhibition for the past year in the  
**PENNSYLVANIA MUSEUM**  
the only known documented furniture that  
has descended in one family since the 18th  
century in the United States.

WILL BE SOLD AT

**UNRESTRICTED PUBLIC SALE**

BY HIS ORDER ON

*Monday Afternoon, December 15, 1930 at 2:30 o'clock*

NOW ON EXHIBITION

AT

**WM. D. MORLEY, Inc.**

The Philadelphia Art Galleries and Auction Rooms

124-126 S. 17th Street, Philadelphia  
[1700 SANSOM STREET BUILDING]

Exhibition Sunday Afternoon

2.00 to 5.00 P. M.

12/1/20

Dear Sir:

This letter is your authority  
to sell at public sale my collection  
of antique Philad<sup>a</sup> furniture  
& silver, on anonymous  
exhibition at the Museum  
(covered by their receipt #1576).

Further information may be  
had of Mr. Thomas Curran,  
1625 Pine Street, who knows this  
Collection well.

Cheque for proceeds of this sale  
is to be drawn to my order & sent  
me by John Russell, Esq., 2107  
Fidelity - Philad<sup>a</sup> Trust Bldg.

Yours faithfully,  
John L. McCord, Jr.



## Foreword

When Mr. John Chalmers Da Costa, 3rd, authorized the undersigned to remove from the Pennsylvania Museum and to sell at Public Sale his Documented and Labelled Family Furniture, dating from the 18th century, little did he realize that a precedent would be set in the Annals of the American Auction.

For up until this time nowhere in these United States has an original collection of authentic documented Philadelphia furniture been uncovered and offered at Public Auction that has descended in one family since the 18th century.

Originally made in the latter half of the 18th century by Edward James and Jacob Wayne for Captain Joseph Da Costa and his wife, Katharine Adams, a cousin of John Quincy Adams, for their home (which still stands) at the corner of Front and Margaretta Streets (now Produce Avenue), Philadelphia, every item listed on the original bill has passed from father to son for five successive generations to the present owner, John Chalmers Da Costa, 3rd.

The labeled and monogramed Philadelphia Chippendale High Case Clock by Edward James, one of the greatest American Craftsmen in early Philadelphia Chippendale history, is one of the important items in the collection.

It is a sale of interest to museums, the collector connoisseur and lover of furniture of the early republic.

*Wm. D. Morley, Inc.*

## *Terms and Conditions of Sale*

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- I. All bills payable in Cash before delivery.
- II. The highest bidder to be the buyer, and if any dispute arise between two or more bidders the lot so in dispute shall be immediately put up again and resold. The Auctioneer reserving the right to reject any bid that he shall deem to be detrimental to the sale of any article offered.
- III. The purchasers to give their names and addresses, and to pay down a cash deposit of at least 25 per cent. of the purchase money, or the whole if required, in default of which the lot or lots so purchased to be immediately put up again and resold.
- IV. The lots to be taken away at the buyer's expense and risk within twenty-four hours of the conclusion of the sale, and the remainder of the purchase money to be absolutely paid or otherwise settled to the satisfaction of the manager on or before delivery, in default of which the undersigned will not hold themselves responsible if the lots be lost, stolen, damaged, or destroyed, but they will be left at the sole risk of the purchaser; and no goods to be removed unless receipted bills are presented.
- V. No claims allowed after the removal of goods.
- VI. Articles are exposed for public examination one or more days, and are sold just as they are, without recourse.
- VII. Upon failure to comply with the above conditions, the money deposited in part payment shall belong to the managers as liquidated damages for purchasers' failure to complete the sale. All lots unclaimed within the time aforesaid shall be resold at public or private sale, without further notice.
- VIII. The undersigned are in no manner connected with the business of the cartage or packing and shipping of purchases, and although they will afford to purchasers every facility for employing careful carriers and packers, they will not hold themselves responsible for the acts and charges of the parties engaged for such service.

WILLIAM D. MORLEY, INC

CITY CENTRE PRESS  
157 N. Fourth Street  
Philadelphia

Sale of Antiques  
COLLECTION OF  
John Chalmers Da Costa, 3rd

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1930, AT 2.30 P. M.

Jewelry

1 GOLD AND SILVER CROSS.

Filigree design, with star centre.

2 GOLD SCARF PIN.

Flying beetle. Filigree wings.

3 ONYX BREASTPIN.

Gold mounting, the centre set with cluster of seven pearls.

4 PAIR ANTIQUE EARRINGS.

Double pendant, with three tear drops and set with gold stars.

5 ONYX BAR PIN AND EARRINGS.

Oblong pin set with gold star and one small pearl. Each of the earrings circular in shape with pearl centre.

6 PAIR OF ANTIQUE GOLD PINS.

Twisted ribbon design.

7 ANTIQUE GOLD LOCKET.

Engraved with scrolls, flowers and medallion of country residence. Monogram J. C. Da C.

8 ANTIQUE MOSAIC BREASTPIN.

Gold mounting with beading. Mosaic centre of dove and inscription "Pax."

9 MOSAIC LOCKET.

Floral design with gold mounting.

10 MOSAIC BROOCH.

Oval with spray of flowers. Antique gold mounting.

11 MINIATURE PAINTING ON IVORY.

With figure of dove and maiden. Antique gold mounting.

12 ANTIQUE ROSE CORAL BROOCH AND EARRINGS.

Gold mounting with tassels and tear drop pendants of coral.

13 ANTIQUE CORAL BRACELET AND PAIR OF EARRINGS.

The bracelet with centre row of graduating coral and sixteen dividing pearls. Set in old gold.

14 ANTIQUE CORAL DOG COLLAR.

Five strand rich rose coral beads. Antique gold mounting, the clasp set with small pearls.

15 ANTIQUE ENGLISH SILVER WATCH.

Open faced, key wind, heavy silver case.



16 GENTLEMAN'S ANTIQUE SILVER WATCH.

Huguenin Vuillemine movement. Hunting case with engraved engine and jockey and his mount.

17 SILVER LETTER OPENER.

18 BOX AND CONTENTS OF MISCELLANEOUS JEWELRY.

Including bar pin, brooches, buckles, earrings and watch fobs.

19 EARLY AMERICAN POWDER HORN.

With designs of principal cities of the world and various forts of Revolutionary time.

20 ANTIQUE INDIAN BEAD BAG.

Beautifully worked with geometric X and cross medallions on white bead background.

21 ANTIQUE INDIAN BEAD FAN CASE.

Matches preceding number.

**Silver**

22 PAIR SUGAR TONGS.

Engraved edges tapering with acorn terminals. Monogram  
J. C. Da C. Unmarked.

23 EARLY AMERICAN MUSTARD SPOON.

The handle with strawberry cluster and monogram J. C. Da C.

24 SILVER MUSTARD SPOON.

Plain design with oval bowl. Marked N & F Huray.

25 SILVER MUSTARD SPOON.

Plain design, oval bowl. Marked E. Lescure, Phila., with eagle.

26 CADDY SPOON.

*Philadelphia, Circa 1796*

Shell shaped bowl with engraved grasp. Maker, Jos. Lownes.

27 PAIR PHYSICIAN'S LANCETS. *Birmingham, England, 1854-1855*

In silver case, finely chased and engraved. Monogram J. C. Da C., from E. A. F.

28 SILVER CANDLE SNUFFERS.

Unmarked.

29 SILVER CANDLE SNUFFERS.

Cartouche shell and scroll design. Unmarked.

30 PAIR OF SHEFFIELD COASTERS.

Openwork wire design with wooden bases.

31 ENGLISH SILVER FORK.

Kings pattern. Monogram I. W. N. (Isaac W. Norris.)

32 SILVER TEA SPOONS.

*Philadelphia, Circa 1796*

Tapering handles engraved and initialed. Monogram A. T. D.  
Maker, Joseph Lownes. Six pieces.

33 SILVER TABLE SPOONS.

*Philadelphia Circa, 1796*

Plain handles with monogram C. D. Maker, Joseph Lownes.  
Six pieces.



Room in Original Residence of Captain Joseph Da Costa

34 SILVER TABLE SPOONS.

Engraved line edge monogram J. D. C. Marked S. W. in oval and F. C. W. in rectangle. Four pieces.

35 SILVER TABLE SPOONS. *Philadelphia, Circa 1786*

Plain bowls, the reverse with shell, the handle with strawberry cluster terminal. Monogram J. D. C. Maker, E. Lownes.

36 ANTIQUE SILVER KNIVES AND FORKS.

Hollow stems with ribbed and ringed designs. Twelve knives and twelve forks. Hall mark indistinguishable.

37 EARLY AMERICAN SILVER SOUP LADLE.

*T. Hammersly, New York, Circa 1746*

Graceful tapering curved handle with engraved line border. Monogram J. D. C. Marked T. W. in capitals in rectangle.



38 SILVER SOUP LADLE.

*Philadelphia, Circa 1819*

Large bowl with reverse side with shell, the handle with strawberry and scroll terminal. Maker, E. Lownes.

39 PAIR SHEFFIELD BRACKET CANDLE SCONCES.

Twisted arm supports urn candle socket, with thread rim. Fitted for one light.

40 PAIR EARLY AMERICAN SILVER CANDLESTICKS.

Plain ringed shafts on circular foot. Unmarked.

*Height 7 inches*

41 EARLY PHILADELPHIA COFFEE SET.

Comprising coffee pot, fourteen inches in height, ovoid, plain body with beaded shoulder, foot and spout. Pedestal base on square foot. The cover surmounted by pineapple. Finely chased ribbon bowknot and floral medallion and monogram J. D. C.

41a COVERED SUGAR BOWL AND OPEN BOWL ON PEDESTAL FOOT.

*Philadelphia, Circa 1796*

Three pieces. Maker, J. Lownes.

42 EARLY AMERICAN SILVER CREAMER.

Helmet shaped, circular foot with beading. Marked initials  
T. B. *Height 7 inches*

43 RARE SILVER TEA POT.

Ovoid with beaded shoulder, neck and circular pedestal base  
on square foot. The domed cover surmounted by urn. Maker,  
Joseph Richardson, Philadelphia. *Height 11 inches*

44 ANTIQUE SHEFFIELD URN.

Ovoid, plain, with engraved band at the shoulder of cloud  
forms. Domed cover with urn finial. Pretzel side handles.  
Pedestal base and rests on four ball feet, with mahogany stand.

*Height 19 inches*

## Furniture

- 45 MAHOGANY CONSOLE TABLE. *Circa 1810*

Empire. Arcaded understructure with mirror back. Full turned columns, with finely chased brass terminal supports, cove molded top fitted with marble slab. The heavy molded base curves inward at the sides toward convex centre. The legs with carved twisted rope molding.

*Height 38 inches, length 42 inches*

- 46 MAHOGANY TILT-TOP TABLE. *Philadelphia, Circa 1775*

Plain circular top, revolving, the crow's nest with vase-turned supports. The columnar shaft with bulbous ringed and collared base. Resting on tripod and Dutch feet.

*Height 29 inches, diameter 22 inches*

47 CARVED GILTWOOD MIRROR. *Philadelphia, Circa 1795*

Upright. The top with cove molding. The glass is divided into two sections, the upper one with black ground with white diamond and miniature medallion of George Washington in gilt wreath. Fluted columns with block terminals.

*Height 46 inches, width 24 inches*

48 CARVED GILTWOOD MIRROR. *Philadelphia, Circa 1795*

Split column supports. The top with acanthus leaf and scrolls. The foot in the form of blocks with floral rosettes. The mirror is divided in two sections, the lower part of bevelled glass, the upper part painted black with white arch bordered in gold, showing shield and crest. *Height 56 inches, width 28 inches*

49 CARVED GILTWOOD MIRROR. *Philadelphia, Circa 1795*

Upright. The overlapping cove molded top with ball molding. Split tetrafoyle molded columns with acanthus leaf and scroll. The glass is divided into two sections with fluted black border. The upper part with painted glass panel of seascape and figures.

*Height 47 inches, width 27 inches*

50 MAHOGANY POLE SCREEN.

*Philadelphia, Circa 1795*

Chippendale. The base of the usual tripod with turned columns similar to that found on tilt top tables. With ball and claw feet. Above the base is a pole which terminates in a turned finial. A rectangular screen slides on pole. The screen with a painted design of flowers.

*Height 53 inches*

51 MAHOGANY SHERATON CORNER WASHSTAND.

*Philadelphia, 1796*

By Jacob Wayne. The top with one large and two small openings with cyma apron and sweeping sides terminate in a small open shelf. The lower shelf stretcher with one long drawer fitted with original brass pull, bordered with alternating inlay of ebony and satinwood. The front on either side of the long drawer with corresponding inlay to simulate two small drawers with brass pulls. Graceful square tapering legs with hairline inlay. (On original bill.) Described and illustrated in *International Studio*, June, 1930.

*Height 42 inches*

52 MAHOGANY HEPPELWHITE END OF DINING TABLE.

*Philadelphia, 1796*

Made by Jacob Wayne. Half round with overlapping top, deep skirt with molding. Square tapering fluted and channeled legs. (On original bill.) Described and illustrated in Pennsylvania Museum Bulletin, Volume 25, May, 1930.

*Length 64 inches, width 29 inches, height 28 inches*

53 INLAID MAHOGANY CARD TABLE.

*Philadelphia, 1796*

By Jacob Wayne. Folding top, half round, which forms circular table when opened. The frieze with inlaid hairline edge, the square tapering legs with oval inlaid medallion of floral spray. (On original bill.) Described and illustrated in International Studio, June, 1930.

*Diameter 36 inches, Height 29 inches*

54 INLAID MAHOGANY CARD TABLE.

*Philadelphia, 1796*

By Jacob Wayne. The edge of the half-round folding top finished with two beads and a hollow. The square tapering legs with hairline inlay floral spray, rosette and streamer. (On original bill.) Described and illustrated in International Studio, June, 1930.

*Height 29 inches, diameter 36 inches*



55 INLAID MAHOGANY CARD TABLE. *Philadelphia, 1796*

By Jacob Wayne. Companion to preceding number. (Rear left leg restored.) (On original bill.)

56 HEPPELWHITE MAHOGANY AND SATINWOOD CIRCULAR BUREAU. *Philadelphia, 1796*

By Jacob Wayne. Swell front containing four long graduating drawers with a border of satinwood inlay and a second line forms an elongated oval panel upon each drawer. The interior of the drawers are constructed of red pine and poplar, the sides of the latter wood having finely cut mortise and tenons. Fitted with original brass bale handles and ogee bracket feet.

*Height 37 inches, length 42 inches, width 22 inches*

Note: This bureau an excellent example, exceptionally well built, possesses a feature infrequently met with in American cabinet work, for a partition separates each compartment when the drawer is removed. (On original bill.) Described and illustrated in Pennsylvania Museum Bulletin, Volume 25, May, 1930, and International Studio, June, 1930.

57 HEPPELWHITE MAHOGANY CIRCULAR BUREAU. *Philadelphia, 1796*

By Jacob Wayne. Companion to preceding number.

58 SET OF SIX HEPPELWHITE MAHOGANY DINING CHAIRS.

*Philadelphia, 1796*

By Jacob Wayne. The backs shield shaped and at the center of the top of each are carved heads of wheat with pendant flowers. There are five curved, grooved strips forming the splat which appear to be bound together at the centre. Fluted and channeled square tapering legs. The arm chair has French elbows with sweeping side rails. Upholstered seats. The set comprises five side and one arm chair. Described and illustrated in the Pennsylvania Museum Bulletin, page 24, May, 1930, and also in International Studio, June, 1930.

59 HEPPELWHITE CARVED MAHOGANY FOUR-POST BED.

*Philadelphia, 1796*

By Jacob Wayne. The graceful posts are turned in vase shape with a long swelling shaft above, and on the vase part are carved festoons of draperies and the rest of the shaft is reeded. Plain arched headboards. Described and illustrated in International Studio, June, 1930.

*Height 7 feet 10 inches, width 4 feet 10 inches, length 6 feet 6 inches.*



Bedroom in Original Residence of Captain Joseph Da Costa

60 ORIGINAL BILL OF SALE COVERING NUMBERS 51 to 59 INCLUSIVE.

Bill dated June 25, 1796 to Captain Joseph Da Costa to Jacob Wayne, Dr. Illustrated in Pennsylvania Museum Bulletin, Volume 25, May, 1930.

61 VERY RARE CHIPPENDALE MAHOGANY HIGH CASE CLOCK.  
*Philadelphia, Circa 1770*

With original label of maker, Edward James, and carved initials E. J. Beautifully proportioned mahogany case with a rich patina. Scroll pediment top terminating in volutes; flame finials issuing from an uncommon small molding. A dentil molding completes the cornice. The arched glass door surrounded by a deep molding and a wide ornate fret encloses the dial which shows phases of the moon and days of the month. The central portion with recessed reeded quarter columns, the base with bracket feet. The works made by William Huston, Philadelphia. Label in clock case reads as follows: Made and sold by Edward James, Cabinet and Chair maker, in Swanson Street, near Swedes' Church, Philadelphia.

*Height 7 feet 10 inches, width 21 inches*

Note: This piece is of the greatest importance, inasmuch as it is the only labeled clock by Edward James that is known to exist. The clock is in excellent state of preservation. Described and illustrated in International Studio, February, 1929, by W. M. Hornor, Jr. Exhibited at the Pennsylvania Museum, 1929-1930.

Refer to the Reifsnnyder Catalogue No. 704, important Carved Mahogany Chest on Chest. Was attributed to Edward James and sold for \$26,000.00.

Cap<sup>n</sup> Joseph D. Costa to Dr  
 1796 Jacob Wayne  
 June 25<sup>th</sup> To 8 Mahogany Chairs Coverd with hair  
 Cloth & Brass nails . . . . . 30.00  
 To 1 D<sup>o</sup> 4 feet dining table . . . . . 6.15  
 To 2 D<sup>o</sup> Ends to Suite d<sup>o</sup> . . . . . 9.00  
 To 2 D<sup>o</sup> Circular Bureaus . . . . . 24.00  
 To 2 D<sup>o</sup> 4' Card tables . . . . . 16.00  
 To 1 D<sup>o</sup> Stand . . . . . 2.12.6  
 To 1 D<sup>o</sup> Sofa stufft in Shetling . . . . . 15.00  
 To 1 high post bedstead & 2 posts & bed<sup>g</sup> . . . . . 6.00  
 To 1-2 all Button wood . . . . . 4.00  
 To 2 Bottoms & lines for d<sup>o</sup> . . . . . 2.00  
 R. D. Payment in full £ 100. 5. 6  
 June 25 1796 Jacob Wayne

62 HEPPELWHITE MAHOGANY ROLL TOP DESK.

*Philadelphia, Circa 1790*

Cylinder fall front with sliding writing board, encloses four pigeon-holes with long drawer below, flanked on either side with four smaller drawers equipped with original brass pulls. Below the writing compartment are two deep drawers, the edges inlaid with satinwood and fitted with original brass ring handles and escutcheons. Square tapering graceful legs with hairline inlay. *Height 44 inches, length 38 inches, width 20 inches*

63 RARE CHIPPENDALE MAHOGANY TILT-TOP TABLE.

*Philadelphia, Circa 1770*

Dish top with molded edge and carved from a solid piece of mahogany. Revolving crow's nest on columnar shaft with bulbous base collared and ringed. Tripod with ball and claw terminals. *Diameter 31 inches, height 29 inches*

64 MAHOGANY CHIPPENDALE DROP-LEAF TABLE.

*Philadelphia, Circa 1760*

Heavy rectangular drop sides with chamfered corners and gate-leg supports. Arched end skirt, graceful turned cabriole legs with ball and claw terminals.

*Height 30 inches, width 48 inches, table extended 57 inches*



65 CHIPPENDALE MAHOGANY ARM CHAIR.

*Philadelphia, Circa 1770*

Exceptionally well proportioned, ladder back consisting of four bow-shaped slats which are cut so that they seem to entwine at the centre. They are gracefully curved in true Chippendale manner. Square channeled and fluted legs with plain stretchers. Upholstered seat covered in black leather.

66 SET OF THREE CHIPPENDALE MAHOGANY SIDE CHAIRS.

*Philadelphia, Circa 1770*

The splats composed of three concave curves in the Gothic fashion. The cresting or scrolled top rail has carved leaf centre. The stiles fluted with scrolled ear terminals. The chair stands on well proportioned cabriole legs terminating in birds ball and claw feet. Upholstered seats.

67 MAHOGANY WINE CHEST.

*Philadelphia, Circa 1790*

Square box shape with hinged cover and brass end handles. The interior fitted with various sized finely cut old glass bottles in separate mahogany compartments.      *20 inches by 19 inches*

68 HEPPELWHITE MAHOGANY SHAVING MIRROR.

*Philadelphia, Circa 1770*

Oval upright mirror with inlaid satinwood border. Scroll supports and stretcher base.

69 MINIATURE PAINTING ON IVORY.

Portrait of Dr. Isaac W. Norris, by James Peale. Signed and dated J. P., 1804, lower left corner.

70 MINIATURE PAINTING ON IVORY.

Portrait of young man. Signed Friburg, lower left corner.

71 SILHOUETTE OF CAPT. JOSEPH DA COSTA.

Made by a mechanical device and cut by Moses Williams, negro, a former slave of Charles Wilson Peale. Was made at the old State House, now Independence Hall. Described and illustrated in *International Studio*, June, 1930, by W. M. Hornor, Jr., page 40.

72 OIL PAINTING.

Portrait of Dr. Isaac W. Norris. Attributed to Thomas Sully.

*Height 30 inches, width 24 inches*

73 OIL PAINTING.

Portrait of Hannah Norris. Attributed to Thomas Sully.

*Height 30 inches, width 24 inches*

74 ADAMS CARVED GILTWOOD MIRROR. *Philadelphia, Circa 1790*

Oval frame with pearl bead in the molding, surmounted with urn and leaf streamers. *Height 33 inches, width 17 inches*

75 PAINTED TIN TRAY. *American, Circa 1800*

Cream centre with oval medallion of figures and landscape. The gallery painted black with gold leaf designs.

76 IVORY MEMORANDUM PAD.

77 INVENTORY AND APPRAISEMENT OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE  
BELONGING TO THE ESTATE OF JOS. VANSISE, DEC'D, MADE BY  
JACOB WAYNE, FEBRUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>, 1810.





M. M. A.  
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MUSEUM OF ART

*Thomas J. Watson Library*

